

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00  
DOTE-00 EB-08 FMC-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-09  
OES-07 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /078 W  
-----104816 240428Z /75

R 231448Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3383  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 1200

USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EIND, EINV, EWWT, SW  
SUBJ: SWEDISH SHIPYARD AWARDED SOVIET ORDER FOR WORLD'S LARGEST  
FLOATING DOCK

REF: 77 STOCKHOLM 4716

1. ON MARCH 22 THE STOCKHOLM PRESS REPORTED THAT THE ARENDAL  
SHIPYARD OF GOTAVERKEN (BELONGING TO THE GOVERNMENT STATSVARV  
GROUP) HAS BEEN AWARDED A SOVIET ORDER FOR A FLOATING DRYDOCK,  
REPORTEDLY THE LARGEST EVER BUILT. ARENDAL RECEIVED THE ORDER  
IN COMPETITION WITH SEVERAL JAPANESE AND WEST EUROPEAN SHIP-  
BUILDING YARDS. THE ORDER IS REPORTEDLY WORTH BETWEEN 250  
MILLION AND 300 MILLION KRONOR. IT WILL SUSTAIN EMPLOYMENT AT  
THE ARENDAL YARD FOR ABOUT A YEAR AND PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT FOR  
SOME 800 SHIPYARD WORKERS.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THE FLOATING DRYDOCK WILL  
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BE 330 METERS LONG, 88 METERS WIDE, AND 30 METERS HIGH. IT  
WILL HAVE A LIFTING CAPACITY OF 80,000 TONS. THE DOCK WILL  
HAVE ITS OWN DIESEL POWER GENERATING STATION, SICK BAY WITH  
COMPLETE OPERATING FACILITIES, FULLY EQUIPPED WORKSHOPS, LARGE  
DINING-ROOMS, HOUSING FOR 150 PERSONS, AND OTHER FACILITIES  
WHICH MAKE THE DOCK COMPLETELY INDEPENDENT OF LAND CONNECTION  
FOR A CONSIDERABLE TIME. DELIVERY OF THE DOCK IS TO TAKE PLACE

DURING THIS SUMMER OF 1979. IT WILL BE TOWED TO NORTHERN RUSSIA (MURMANSK) AND PROBABLY USED FOR NAVAL PURPOSES.

3. CONSTRUCTION OF THIS FLOATING DRYDOCK FOR THE SOVIET UNION APPEARS TO BE IN LINE WITH THE SWEDISH SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY'S "REORIENTATION" OF ITS ACTIVITY, THAT IS, A SEARCH FOR NEW THINGS TO BUILD TO OFFSET THE DIMINISHING DEMAND FOR SHIPS. THIS IS THE FIRST LARGE ORDER RECEIVED IN CONNECTION WITH THE REORIENTATION PROGRAM UNDER WAY. THE INDUSTRY NOW HOPES TO RECEIVE ORDERS FOR FLOATING FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS, BRIDGES, OFFSHORE MOBILE HARBORS AND, OF COURSE, ADDITIONAL ORDERS FOR FLOATING DRYDOCKS.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Subject:** SWEDISH SHIPYARD AWARDED SOVIET ORDER FOR WORLD'S LARGEST FLOATING DOCK  
**TAGS:** EIND, EINV, EWWT, SW  
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**Type:** TE  
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